

Thursday, Aug. 3, 2000

## P4 truss arrives at SSPF via trailer from Tulsa



## Follow lightning tips to keep safe



▲ **Shuttle Update:** Another International Space Station (ISS) truss segment arrived at the Space Station Processing Facility at Kennedy Space Center on July 30. The segment, known as "P4," made a weeklong journey via trailer from Tulsa, Okla., where it was manufactured and assembled by The Boeing Co. The P4 truss segment is slated to launch in February of 2003. It will be aboard the 19<sup>th</sup>

American launched mission to the Space Station. It will be the sixth of twelve truss elements that provide the framework for attaching the solar arrays, radiators, antennae and mini logistic platforms to the ISS. Eventually, the P4 truss will be mated to the P3 truss, which is already at KSC in the Operations and Checkout facility. The P4 truss will provide the Station with additional electrical power producing capability in addition to the P6 truss module scheduled to launch later this year. The trailer containing the truss is pictured backing up to the SSPF High Bay for delivery.



◆ **Community Leaders Breakfast:** "Milestones of the Millennium" is this year's theme for the annual Community Leaders

Briefing, which is being held at the KSC Visitor Complex this morning. KSC Director Roy D. Bridges Jr., and Deputy Director James L. Jennings will meet with various community leaders from across Brevard County and the State of Florida about long-term viability of KSC and benefits the space program contributes to the community. Leaders will hear about KSC's vision, budget, employment trends, launch outlook and future goals.

◆ **Lightning strikes:** Most of the 100 people that are killed each year in the U.S. by lightning, and another 1,000 that are injured, are not killed or injured when the heaviest rain is falling, but before or after the time when the rain and lightning is most intense, when the danger seemed to be least apparent. The following lightning tips can help keep you safe.

- ◆ When enjoying water sports, give yourself adequate time to exit the water in anticipation of thunderstorms.
- ◆ Don't be fooled by sun elsewhere in the skies; young thunderstorms can occupy only a fraction of the sky.
- ◆ Watch for storms that are growing very quickly, are very dark at their bases, or are very tall. Equally dangerous is when a storm appears to be finished and only light rain and/or occasional thunder is heard.
- ◆ Wait at least 30 minutes after lightning activity ceases to resume your water sports activities.

◆ **Did You Know?** NASA researchers have found that the Pacific Ocean has "mood swings" that have a dramatic impact on our weather. The El Niño-like shifts in the ocean temperature that scientists once thought cycled every 15 to 20 years, now appear to be part of a pattern that lasts 70 years or more. The research, conducted by Dr. Yi Chao, an oceanographer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA, and colleagues Michael Ghil and James McWilliams of the University of California, Los Angeles, appears in the Aug. 1, 2000, issue of *Geophysical Research Letters*.

**KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.**

**Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:**

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